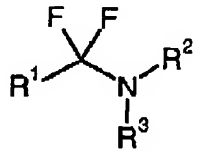
Amendments to Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application.

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Previously Presented) A process for preparing at least one compound of the formula (I)



(I)

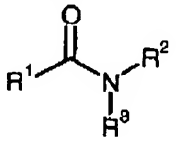
wherein

R^1 represents hydrogen, C_1-C_{12}-alkyl, $[(C_2$-C_{12}-alkylene)-$O]_n(C_1$-C_{12}-alkyl)] where n = 1 to 5, C_3-C_{14}-aryl, C_4-C_{15}-arylalkyl or NR^4R^5, where R^4 and R^5 each independently of one another represent C_1-C_8-alkyl or NR^4R^5 as a whole represents a 4 to 7-membered cyclic radical having a total of 3 to 16 carbon atoms and

R^2 and R^3 each independently of one another represent C_1-C_{12}-alkyl, C_3-C_{14}-aryl or C_4-C_{15}-arylalkyl, or together are part of a cyclic radical having a total of 3 to 16 carbon atoms, or

R^1 and R^2 and/or R^3 are a cyclic radical having a total of 3 to 16 carbon atoms;

comprising reacting compounds of the formula (II)



(II)

wherein

R^1, R^2 and R^3 have the meanings given above

in the presence of oxalyl fluoride or a mixture of oxalyl fluoride and difluorophosgene.

2. (Previously Presented) A process according to Claim 1, characterized in that the reaction takes place in the presence of organic solvent.

3. (Previously Presented) A process according to Claim 1, characterized in that R^1 represents hydrogen, C_1-C_{12}-alkyl or C_3-C_6-aryl.

4. (Previously Presented) A process according to Claim 1, characterized in that the radicals R^2 and R^3 each independently of one another represent C_1-C_8-alkyl, or NR^2R^3, which as a whole, represents N-morpholinyl, N-methyl-1,4-piperazin-N-yl, or $R^1CF_2R^2$, which as a whole, represents 2,2-difluoroimidazolinyl, 2,2-difluoropyrrolidinyl, 2,2-difluoropiperidinyl or [2,2,2]-2,2,5,5-tetrafluoro-1,4-diazabicyclooctane or [2,2,2]-2,2,6,6-tetrafluoro-1,4-diazbicyclo-octane, in which case the radicals are optionally monosubstituted or disubstituted by C_1-C_4-alkyl.

5. (Previously Presented) A process according to Claim 1, characterized in that the compounds of the formula (I) prepared are: 1,1-difluoromethyl-N,N-dimethylamine, 1,1-difluoromethyl-N,N-diethylamine, 1,1-difluoromethyl-N,N-diisopropyl-amine, 1,1-difluoro-N,N-2-trimethyl-1-propanamine, 1,1-difluoro-N,N-2,2-tetramethyl-1-propanamine, N,N-diethyl-α,α-difluoro-2,2-dimethyl-1-propanamine, N-(1,1-difluoromethyl)morpholine, 1,1-difluoro-N,N-dimethylphenylmethanamine, N,N-diethyl-α,α-difluoro-3-pyridylmethanamine, N,N-diethyl-α,α-difluoro-2-pyridylmethanamine, diethyl-α,α-difluoro-(4-chlorophenyl)methanamine, N,N-diisopropyl-α,α-difluorophenylmethanamine, N,N-diethylyl-α,α-difluorophenylmethanamine, N,N-dimethyl-α,α-difluorophenylmethanamine, 2,2-difluoro-1,3-dimethylimidazolidin, 2,2-difluoro-1,3,3-trimethylpyrrolidine, [2,2,2]-2,2,5,5-tetrafluoro-3,3,6,6-tetramethyl-1,4-diazabicyclooctane and [2,2,2]-2,2,6,6-tetrafluoro-3,3,5,5-tetramethyl-1,4-diazabicyclooctane.

6. (Currently Amended) A process according to Claim 1, characterized in that the molar ratio of oxalyl fluoride to compounds of the formula (II) is 0.8:1 to 20:1.

7. (Previously Presented) A process according to Claim 1, characterized in that the reaction temperature is from -50°C to 100°C.

8. (Previously Presented) A process according to Claim 1, characterized in that the reaction pressure is from 0.8 to 20 bar.

9. (Currently Amended) A process according to Claim 1, wherein the process further comprises reacting the resulting compounds of formula (I) with

- at least one aprotic, tertiary amine which does not contain fluorine atoms in the ~~β~~ α position to the nitrogen and/or at least one N-heteroaromatic compound and
- hydrogen fluoride.

10. (Previously Presented) A process according to Claim 9, characterized in that the molar ratio of aprotic tertiary amine and/or N-heteroaromatic compounds to compounds of the formula (I) is 0.1:1 to 20:1 and the molar ratio of hydrogen fluoride to aprotic tertiary amine is 0.2:1 to 10:1.

11-14. (Cancelled)

15. (Previously Presented) A process for preparing fluorine compounds from corresponding hydroxyl compounds comprising reacting the hydroxyl compounds with compounds which have been prepared according to Claim 9.

16. (Previously Presented) A process for preparing for preparing geminal difluorocompounds from the corresponding carbonyl compounds comprising reacting

the carbonyl compounds with compounds which have been prepared according to Claim 9.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Previously Presented) A fluorinating reagent prepared according to the process of Claim 9.